恨み恋。
ウラミコイ、コイ、ウラミコイ。
1
Uramikoi.Koi.Uramikoi.
秋タカ

恨み来、恋、恨み恋。

Uramikoi, Koi, Uramikoi.

秋タカ

Chapter **1** - *The hateful Cat* *003*

Chapter **2** - *A cornered rat will bite a rat* *087*

Chapter **3** - *The cat's repayment* *143*

恨み来、恋、恨み恋。

...I SEE.
THE CAT, REALIZING THAT IT HAD BEEN DECEIVED, DETESTED THE RAT. IT HATED HIM.
LONG AGO, THE RAT DECEIVED THE CAT FOR ITS OWN PERSONAL GAIN.

SO YOU'RE... THE HATE-FUL CAT.
THAT IS WHY, EVEN TO THIS VERY DAY,
CATS ALWAYS CHASE AFTER RATS.

CHAPTER 1: THE HATEFUL CAT

恨み来、恋、恨み恋。

NEKUNI KYOUICHI

CURIOSITY IS TROUBLESOME.

AND YOU MIGHT ALSO COME TO MEET LOTS OF UNEXPECTED BETRAYALS.

IF YOU GET EVEN A BIT CURIOUS, YOUR CURIOSITY WILL GUSH FORTH LIKE A SWARM OF HOUSE MICE. YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO HOLD YOURSELF BACK.

Scanlated by Animun Mutare - Animunmutare.wordpress.com

ARE TRUE IDIOTS.

絶対に押すな

THOSE WHO ARE SO EASILY INFLUENCED AND TAKE AN INTEREST IN SUCH OBVIOUS BAIT

WHICH IS WHY YOU MUST TREAD CAREFULLY WHEN YOU DEAL WITH YOUR CURIOSITY.

DEATH

DON'T PUSH IT NO MATTER WHAT!

ゴゴゴゴゴゴゴ

ゴゴゴゴゴ

SEE? JUST AS I SAID.

DUMB-ASS, DUMB-ASS!

WHY WOULD YOU DO THAT!?

DUMBASS, RETARD!

AHA-HA-HA!

KAPPA KAWARASHI TAROUMARU

ZASHIKI-WARASHI ZAWARASHI HANA

Easy-peasy!

CHEAP TRAPS LIKE THAT ARE ENOUGH FOR RAT-NII.

AHAHA-HAHA!

HE'S ANGRY!

DAMNED LITTLE YOUKAI BRATS!!

IT'S YOU AGAIN... YOU...

...CH. TAROUMARU AND HANA...

I'M NOT AS DUMB AS TO FALL FOR THE SAME TRAP TWI...

ANOTHER ONE...! EVEN IF THEY'RE YOUKAI, BRATS ARE STILL BRATS.

!

AH-

YOU... FELL FOR THIS KIND OF TRAP AGAIN...

HEY, THIS ONE'S HUGE!!?

WHOA, WHOA, WHOA,

THIS ISN'T...

ドカ

...AYAKA...!

...GEEZ.

JUST WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOIN'!?

CAN'T YOU PUT YOURSELF ON THE SHOES OF THE ONE WHO'S DOIN' THE SAVING JUST A LITTLE MORE?

USHIGURA AYAKA

AH.

THAT ASIDE, SHOULDN'T YOU LET TAROUMARU DOWN?

AARGH, AND THAT'S WHY YOU KEEP GETTIN' INTO THOSE DAMNED TROUBLES!

WOW, YOU AREN'T REFLECTING ON IT AT ALL!

AH... WELL, I THOUGHT THAT AS LONG AS THINGS WERE KEPT INTERESTING, IT WAS ALL RIGHT...

...I DON'T LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT EITHER.

YOU CAN PLAY'N HAVE AS MUCH FUN AS YOU WANT BUT MAKE SURE YOU DON'T KILL ANYONE, 'KAY?

PLEASE STOP WITH THOSE EXTREME THINGS.

WHO'S THE MOTHER? WHO'S THE FATHER? WHO'S LIKE A MARRIED COUPLE!?

SAY IT CLEARLY SO I CAN HEAR YA!

DID THEY REALLY SAY FATHER ANYWHERE?

WH...!

SHE IS!

OX-NEE IS KINDA SCOLDING US LIKE A MOTHER, ISN'T SHE?

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

SO? YOU CAME TO MEET ME ON A DAY OFF IN YOUR UNFORM...

RUNNING AWAY

wah

wah

AND THAT YOUKAI IS THE HATEFUL CAT.

YOUR NATURAL ENEMY, KYOUICHI-SAN.

...YES, WE HEARD FROM THE INJ FAMILY

THAT A YOUKA HAS BEEN SIGHTED AT THE BORDER OF THE TWELVE CITY.

? SOMETH.NG WRONG?

AH... JUST KEEP GO.NG.

INN-

WA.T, AROUND THE BORDER? BUT .T'S AL.READY WELL

!

THE TORIDERAS, THE ONES IN CHARGE OF IT, GUARANTEE THAT IT S WORKING.

THIS C TY HAS A BARR.ER TO KEEP .MPRUDENT YOUKAI AWAY.

EVEN SO IT .SN T SOMETHING YOU HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT.

IT'S... IT'S ALR GHT, SO...

WAIT, WHO'S YOURS?

YOU DAMN BRATS! JUST WHAT DO YA THINK YOU'RE DO.N TO MY KYOU.CHI-SAN:?

HEEE?!

AGANF-

!?

...YOU SAY GUARANTEE, BUT THEY'RE NOT DOING THEIR JOB

YES.

I M GOING TO THE CITY BORDER TO EXTERMINATE SOME OGRES FOR A BIT.

OH, SO...

YOU RE IN THAT OUTFIT FOR WORK AND NOT TO ESCORT ME?

FOR A FEW DAYS... BUT...

WELL, ANYWAY, I'LL BE DO NG THAT TOGETHER WITH THE INL S SANA-CHAN...

CAN'T THEY JUST GET A FAM LY NAME LIKE TAROUMARU AND THE OTHERS AND LIVE IN TH S CITY?

THERE S NO WAY. THERE ARE THOSE THAT DON'T WANT TO LIVE TOGETHER, THOSE THAT LIKE TO EAT HUMANS...

UMM, SO... THESE BAD YOUKA THAT HAVE THE R EYES ON TH S LAND...

UMM...

SO DON'T PUSH YOURSELF TOO HARD ...!

IF YOU EVER GET INTO TROUBLE, I'LL COME TO YOU IN A FLASH...!

OH, OKAY.

I GOT IT, I GOT IT.

...IS THAT OKAY?

HATEFUL CAT.

OH, IT IS.

...RIGHT.

I'M ONLY ALIVE BECAUSE YOU'RE LETT NG ME LIVE,

HATEFUL CAT.

!

I WOULD HAVE CUT YOUR NECK RIGHT THEN AND THERE.

YOU GOT DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO TALKING ABOUT ME. IF YOU HAD SAID ANY MORE,

THAT'S RIGHT. DON'T YOU EVER FORGET...

!?

HUH, WAIT, WHY ARE YOU-

S-STOP, DON T COME HERE, LWAH-

AH
L WAH-

WHAT... THERE'S NO ONE AROUND...

DID YOU REALLY THINK

THAT'D BE ENOUGH TO TRICK MEEEE!?

AH-

WAIT NO

.....//

ER . ERRR

YOU... YOU HATEFU...

I DON T... WANT YOU TO...

GUY...

I... I TOLD... YOU,

I'VE GOT SOME THINGS TO SAY, BUT FOR NOW...

I STILL CAN'T GET THE HANG OF CALLING YOU HATEFUL CAT, SO I LL JUST GO WITH NATSUHO, ALRIGHT?

HATEFUL CAT
NEKOGASAKI
NATSUHO

I'LL... STOP IT... SO...

P... STOP...

AH- OW-

N... NO...

WHY... DO I HAVE TO LISTEN TO WHAT YOU...

BUT *THESE* HURT WAY MORE THAN THREATS, SO STOP, SERIOUSLY!

ALRIGHT, SO YOU CAN THREATEN ME ALL YOU WANT,

WHAT A WASTE!

AH, SHE REALLY LOOKS LIKE SHE'S ABOUT TO CRY.

HURRY... AND COVER ME... WITH THAT...

I'LL... I'LL STOP T, SO...

FO... FOR YOU TO SEE THROUGH MY HIDING SPOT, I'M IMPRESSED...

...IS THERE ANYONE WHO **WOULDN'T** SEE THROUGH IT?

HUP

H' D-!

I WOULD'VE FINISHED HIM WAY EARLIER IF NOT FOR...

WHAT A HATEFUL GUY...

SO... DON'T EVER DO THIS IN PLACES WHERE THERE ARE LOTS OF PEOPLE...!

YOU'RE RATHER IMPOSING AS A CAT.

ALSO, THERE'S ONE MORE THING I'LL TELL YOU... I'M VERY SHY...!

THE HATEFUL CAT.

I SEE SO YOU RE...

THERE'S NOT A SINGLE PERSON WHO LIVES HERE AND DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT IT.

YOU KNOW OF THAT TALE ABOUT HOW THIS CITY CAME TO BE, RIGHT?

...SO YOU KNEW.

LONG AGO,
THERE WAS A
RUINED BUT
VAST LAND.

THE GOD OF THAT LAND COULDN'T
HANDLE IT ALL BY HIMSELF,
SO HE CHOSE TWELVE OF THE
FAMILIES, WHO HAD THE NAMES
OF ANIMALS IN THEIR NAMES
AND HAD THEM MANAGE THE
LAND AS THE YEARS PASSED

THE SELECTION
PROCESS WAS
BY SEEING
WHO REACHED
HIM FASTEST

IN THE END THE FIRST TO REACH HIM
WAS THE RAT FAMILY, WHO ROSE ON
THE OX FAMILY'S BACK AND OUT
SMARTED THEM AT THE LAST INSTANT
AFTER THE RAT CAME THE OX, THE
TIGER, THE RABBIT, THE DRAGON, THE
SNAKE, THE HORSE, THE GOAT, THE
MONKEY, THE ROOSTER, THE DOG AND
LASTLY, THE PIG.

AND THE
LAND GOD,
HAVING LOST
HIS TEMPER,
BANISHED
THEM FROM
THE LAND

THE CAT,
[illegible]
[illegible]
BY THE RAT IN
ONE MOMENT,
AND [illegible]
IN CONSEQUENCE,

AND SO THE
TWELVE FAMILIES
WERE DECIDED, BUT
THE CAT FAMILY,
BEING DECEIVED BY
THE RAT FAMILY AND
GETTING THE DAY
WRONG, APPEARED

FALLING SO FAR DOWN THAT IT BECAME A YOUKAI.

AND DUE TO THAT HATE, IT EVENTUALLY GOT CORRUPTED,

AND SO, DEEP IN THE MOUNTAINS, THE CAT DID NOTHING BUT CURSE THE RAT

AND SO, TONIGHT,

THIS HATE WILL BE DISPELLED BY HAVING YOU ERADICATED...!

HEY.

...BE PREPA-

...WE CAN GET STRAIGHT TO THE POINT IF YOU KNOW.

MY OBJECTIVE IS TO GET RID OF THIS HATE TOWARD YOUR FAMILY...!

HEAD OF THE NEKUNI FAMILY, NEKUNI KYOUICHI...!

CAN YOU JUST FOCUS ALL YOUR HATE TO ME INSTEAD?

INSTEAD OF EXTERMINATING THE WHOLE OF THE NEKUNI FAMILY,

WOULDN'T IT BE MUCH BETTER AND ENJOYABLE TO JUST FOCUS YOUR HATE ON ME AND GET RID OF IT BIT BY BIT?

INSTEAD OF DISPELLING YOUR HATE WITH SOME SLAUGHTER OR SOMETHING,

...WHAT?

OH, LOOKS LIKE IT'S WEAK TO PRESSURE.

HUH... HUUU-UH...?

IF YOU DON'T THINK I'M SERIOUS, YOU CAN JUST DO AS YOU PLEASE.

YOU'RE JUST TRYING TO STALL FOR SOME TIME...

W...WAIT, URM...

YOU SHOULD DECIDE QUICKLY, OR YOU'LL JUST KEEP WASTING YOUR SWEET...

HEHEHEH... SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK? IT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE A BAD DEAL, RIGHT?

AH, OOPS-

TIME-

SHUT UP.

DAMN... YOU JUST HIT ME ALL OF A SUDDEN...

OH, I GUESS I'M AT FAULT.

OOUCH.

AHAHA

SORRY, I PUSHED YOU TOO MUCH.

...THEN,

TO SEE IF YOUR FAMILY CAN BE SPARED,

PROVE TO ME THAT YOU'RE WORTHY OF BECOMING A SCAPEGOAT.

...OR SO I SAID...

I'LL GIVE YOU THREE DAYS, TODAY INCLUDED...

IF YOU CAN'T SHOW ME THAT BY THE LAST DAY'S SUNSET, I'LL KILL ALL OF THE NEKUNI FAMILY...!

NATSUHO, F YOU STAY TOO FAR BEHIND ME AND GET LOST, DON T BLAME ME.

SHE'S SUR- PRISINGLY INNOCENT.

SO... SOMETHING YOU CAN ONLY DO WHEN... YOU ARE CLOSE TO... THE OTHER PERSON.

A... ADDRESS NG SOMEONE JUST L KE THAT... IS

BUT FORGET THAT, WHY IS HE ALREADY CALLING ME BY MY FIRST NAME...?

WHEN I'M WITH HIM, I DON'T KNOW HOW TO ACT...

H...HEY,

HATEFUL... HE... HE'S KIND OF HATEFUL...

EVEN SO, CALL NG YOU BY YOUR SUR- NAME DOESN T MAKE ME FEEL LIKE I'M TALK NG TO YOU...

そぉ〜っ...

ン...

I... I'M NOT THAT GREAT AT... TRANS- FORM NG....

EARS CAME OUT

TH... THAT GAVE ME A JUMP...!

IF YOU'RE THAT ANXIOUS AROUND OTHER PEOPLE, WHY DON'T YOU JUST TURN NTO A CAT LIKE BEFORE...?

ARE YOU REALLY A YOUKAI?

I... I GET T RED EASILY... SO I DON'T WANNA.

...!!

B... B-TE ME...

THAT AS.DE, WHERE ARE... YOU HEADED NOW...?

YOU WERE WAITING *THERE!?*

...HUH!?

YOU HATEFUL FOOL...

HOW DARE YOU AT A TIME L.KE THIS.

...SORRY, MY BAD.

(NO WAY, I CAN'T

IT'S LIKE SHE'S VIBRATING.

CHECKING HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE INSIDE

I THOUGHT YOU WEREN'T AROUND... YOU SHOULD'VE JUST GONE NS.DE TOO.

YOU DON'T THINK IT'S FUN EXPERIMENTING AND TRYING OUT NEW THINGS?

BUT WELL, WHENEVER I GO TO A BOOKSTORE, I KEEP COMING ACROSS BOOKS W.TH N.CE COVERS AND ALSO LOOK FOR BARGAINS, SO A LOT OF T ME PASSES BEFORE I NOTICE.

BUYS BOOKS BY THEIR COVERS →

NOT LISTENING...

A BOWL MIGHT FALL ON YOU... THE INSTANT YOU GRAB A BOOK...

PLUS... IF YOU TOUCH ANYTHING WITHOUT CARE...

I'VE GOT NO INTEREST IN DOING THAT AT ALL...

DAMN, SHE SAW THAT BOWL FALLING ON ME.

NO WAY.

AND ALL HE'S DONE IS BUY THINGS AND WANDER AROUND...

IT'S ALREADY SUNSET OF THE SECOND DAY...

SIIIGH...

WHAT'S GOING ON THERE?

AH,

HMM...

MAYBE I SHOULD TRY TAKING SOME-ONE HOSTAGE TO MAKE HIM SHOW HIS TRUE COLORS...

...?

ARE... YOU GOING...

S...SO, WHERE...

I CAN'T JUST BOTHER PEOPLE I DON'T HATE... HOW TROUBLE-SOME...

SIIIGH...

...BUT WHAT AM I THINKING. I'M FAR TOO SHY AROUND PEOPLE TO DO THAT...

!????

?

HE!

!

MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHERE DID HE...

NOTH-ING...

IT S... NO...

AH, NO...

MY EARS POPPED OUT

MY EARS POPPED OUT

WHEN DID IT GET SO FULL OF PEOPLE...!?

ER

AH-

EH!? HUH!?

RUSH HOUR!

URGH, HOW HATEFUL... HE IS SO HATEFUL!!!

AH... HE LOOKS HAPPY.

AH, THAT GUY! ISN'T HE FROM THAT YOUKAI BAND?

HUH? WHAT IS HE DOING!?

AH, THERE HE IS!

※-CURIOUS ONLOOKER

I WAS ABLE TO HIDE IN A SHADE FOR A BIT... BUT I CAN'T TRANSFORM SINCE I CAN STILL BE SEEN...

BUT WHY ARE THERE SO MANY PEOPLE AROUND...?

YOU'D BARELY SEE ANYONE ELSE IN MY HOMETOWN...

.....

...I'M GETTING KIND OF HOMESICK NOW.

ホンゴウ。。。

!??

...?

SO... SORRY...

MY CURIOSITY TOOK OVER ME...

WITH THIS, YOU CAN TRANSFORM NOW, CAN'T YOU?

...??

SORRY ABOUT THAT.

CAN YOU KEEP GOING?

ゴ

ゴ

ドキ

ドキ

BY THE WAY, NATSUHO, WHERE DID YOU STAY LAST NIGHT?

I'M GETTING A HEAD-ACHE...

ズキン

...WHY IS HE APOLOGIZING TO SOMEONE WHO CAME TO HIM OUT OF THEIR HATE FOR HIM?

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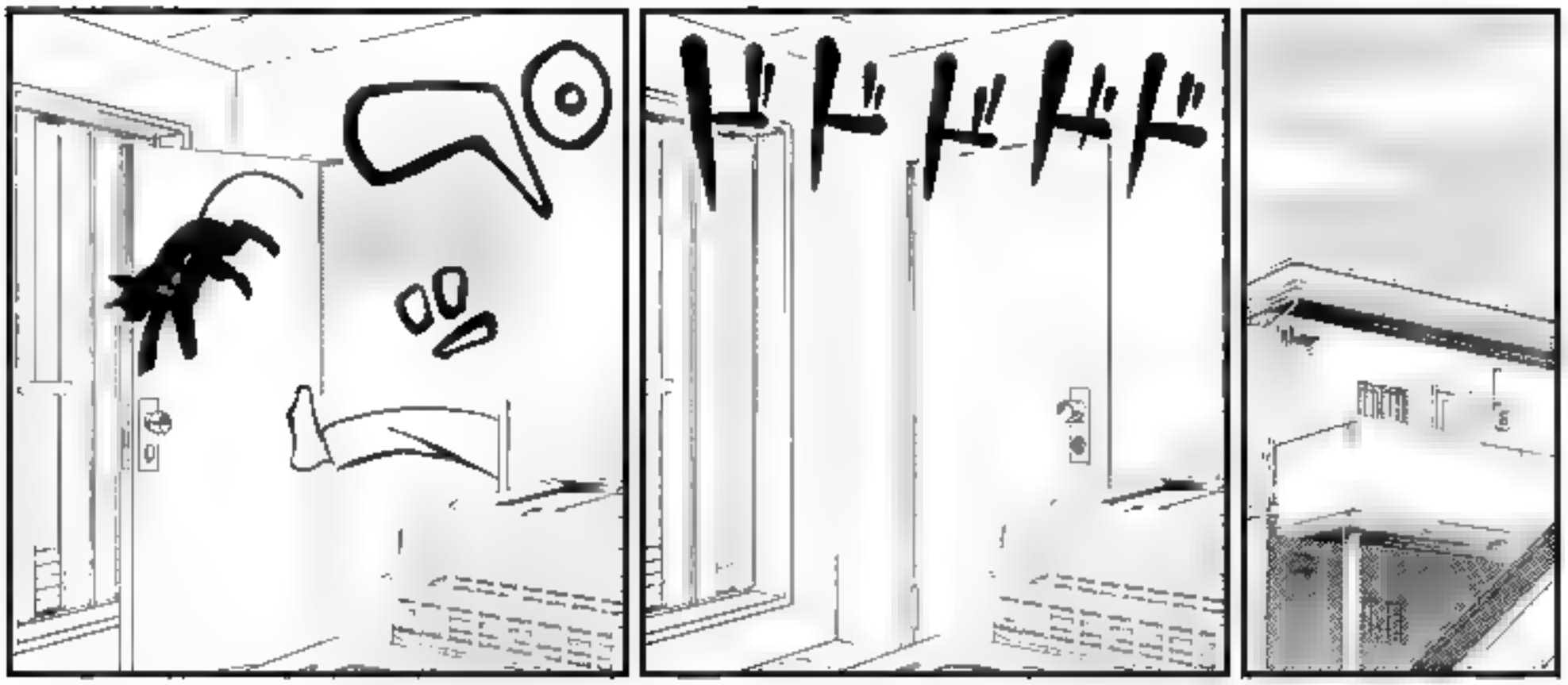
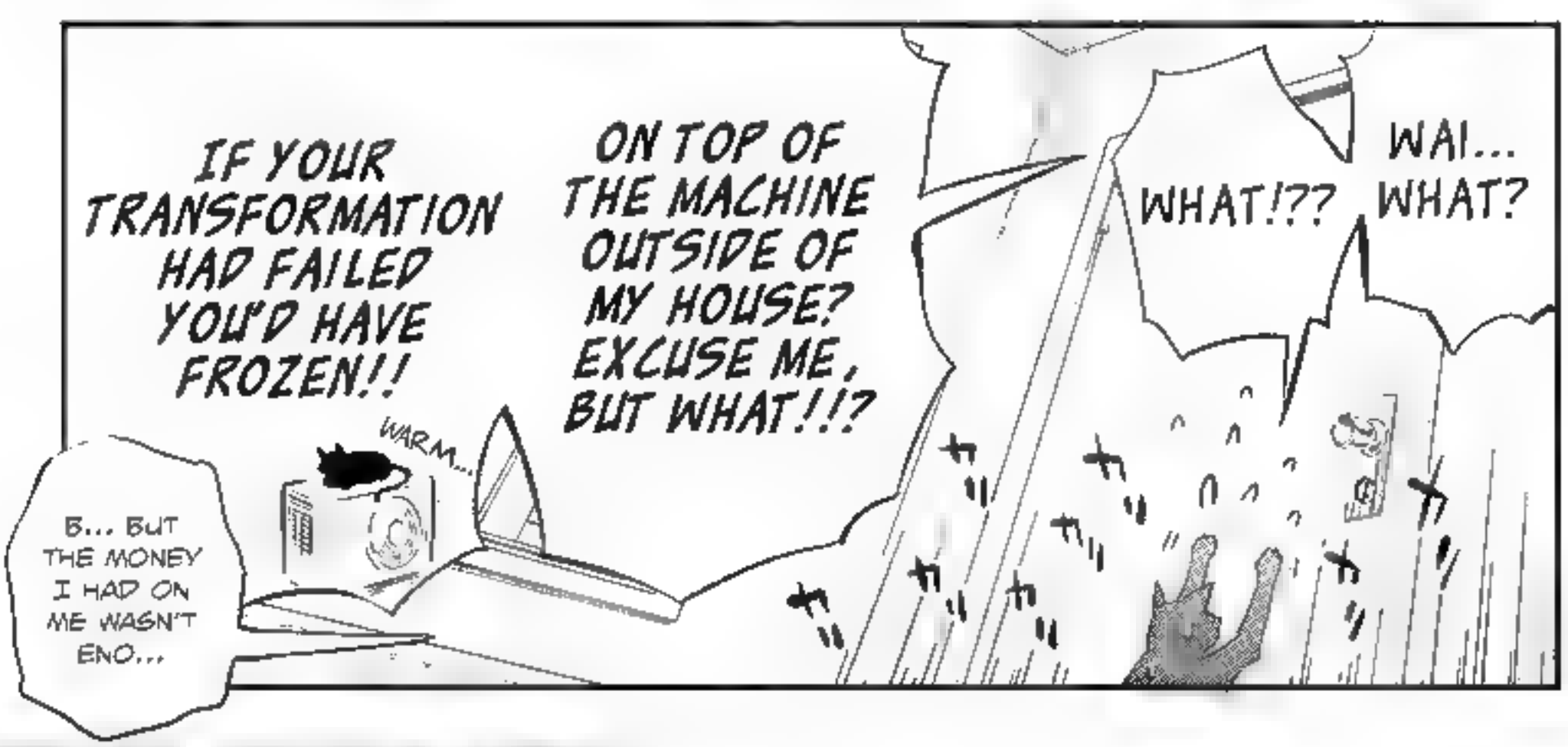
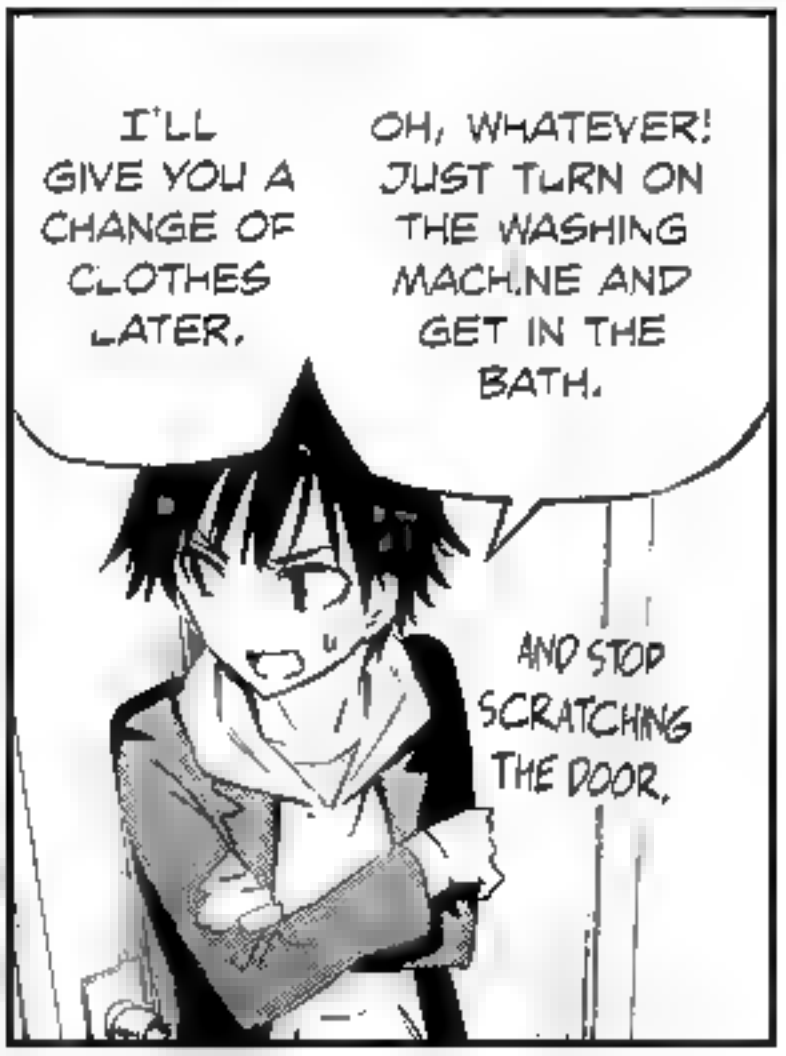



IF YOUR TRANSFORMATION HAD FAILED YOU'D HAVE FROZEN!!
ON TOP OF THE MACHINE OUTSIDE OF MY HOUSE? EXCUSE ME, BUT WHAT!!?
WHAT!??
WAI... WHAT?
WARM...
B... BUT THE MONEY I HAD ON ME WASN'T ENO...

AND BE WARNED THAT IF YOU DON'T, I'LL CALL A FRIEND TO GO IN WITH YOU.


I'LL GIVE YOU A CHANGE OF CLOTHES LATER.
OH, WHATEVER! JUST TURN ON THE WASHING MACHINE AND GET IN THE BATH.
AND STOP SCRATCHING THE DOOR.

I MESSED UP...

IS IT JUST ME OR DOES THIS WASHING MACHINE HAVE WAY TOO MANY BUTTONS..?

OH WELL IVE GOT A BUNCH OF NORMAL BOOKS SO I DONT MIND

TO THINK THE BOOK I BOUGHT BY ITS COVER WAS AN ANTHOLOGY...

I... WAS THINKING SO MUCH IN THE TUB FOR TOO LONG... THAT I GOT DIZZY...

...YOU LOOK RED. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

SH... SHIT WUF...

OH, YOU RE DONE. WAIT, THE S ZE D DN T MATCH, HUH?

PFFFT

YOU'RE A RAT... SO WHY SH YOUR SIZE SO BIG...

AH... SHE PASSED OUT COMPLETELY NOW...

ZZZ

!!??

THIS CATS

NOT WEARING

ANY

...HUH?

OH GOD, I SUDDENLY GOT ALL TENSE, WHY?

CURIOSITY

NOT WEARING ANY

W... WELL, YEAH... SHE CAN'T REALLY WEAR A MAN'S... AND HERS ARE STILL DRYING...

WA T... HOLD ON A SECOND. WHY IS SHE NOT WEARING ANYTHING UNDER-NEATH...!?

OH, YOU IDIOT, DUMBASS! NOTICING THAT AT A TIME LIKE THIS IS JUST GOINT TO MAKE A TURN FOR THE WORST!!

SHE'S KINDA CUTE WHEN SHE'S ALL QUIET...

IT'S WARM...

ぽふっ

ぽふっ

GETTING CLOSER TO ME WON'T MAKE THINGS ANY BETTER...

HE LET AN ENEMY INTO HIS HOME...! JUST WHAT IS HE THINK-ING...?

AND IF YOU DON'T GET CLOSE TO THEM, YOU WON'T BE BETRAYED.

IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANY INTEREST ON OTHERS, YOU WON'T GET CLOSE TO THEM.

!!

AM I GETTING DIZZY...?

ズキ

ズキ

HE DOESN'T LOOK SKILL-FUL ENOUGH FOR THAT THOUGH...

DOES HE HAVE SOME PLAN IN MIND...?

AND WHAT'S WITH ONLY DIRECTING MY HATE TO HIM...?

HATEFUL!

ズキ…

WHAT... IS THIS...

ズキ…

SOME-THING IS ECHOING IN MY HEAD...

NO... THIS...

ISN'T A HEAD-ACHE...

IT'S A VOICE.

ぴくっ

OH, YOU'RE UP. IT'S ALREADY NOON...

……!?

はぁ…っ

NA...

NATSU-HO?

HATEFUL.

HATEFUL.

YOU SHOULDN'T, NOT DRESSED LIKE-

WHOA, WAIT-

HEY, NA-TSUHO...!

W-WELL ATTACKING ME S ALL GOOD, BUT...

...AGAIN, MY HEAD'S ...

わぁ

what ..??

Why?

Wah, what...

わっ

...? THE WAY SHE BEHAVED A MOMENT AGO IS...

CHECKING

.....

P... PUT THEM ON.

No...

Huh?

..?

Why-

OH, WAIT, DON'T FREEZE NOW!

AND DON'T VIBRATE!

N...NO THIS ISN'T... A HEADACHE...

ARE YOU ALRIGHT? WANT SOME MEDICINE FOR YOUR HEADACHE?

HATEFUL

HATEFUL

...COME TO THINK OF IT, WHEN DID MY HEADACHE DISAPPEAR...?

I DON'T... NEED IT.

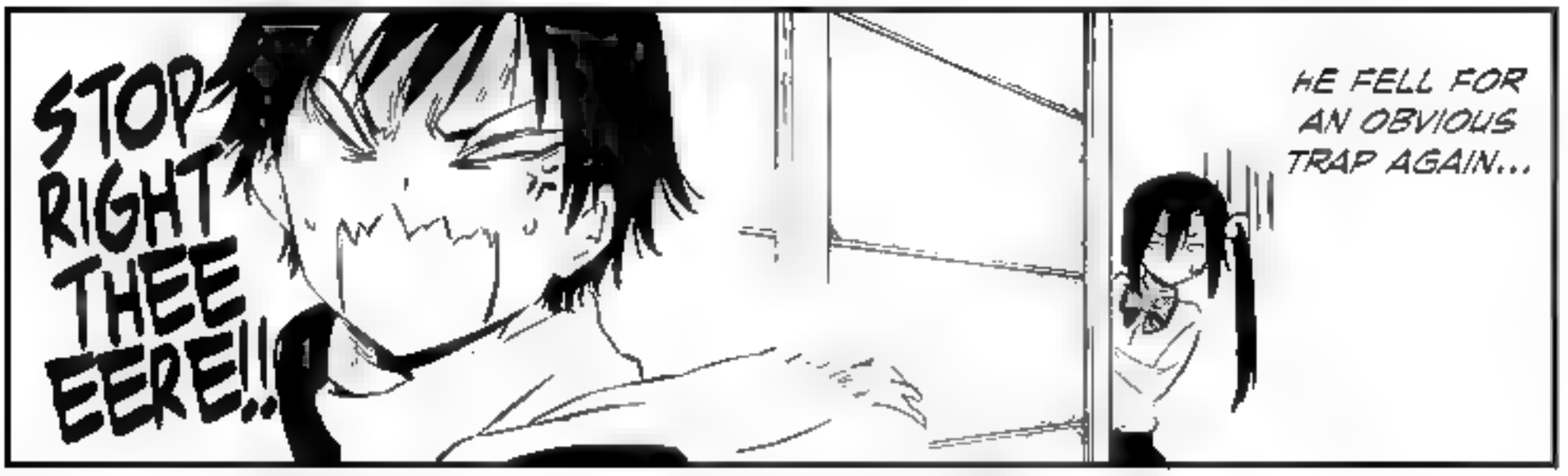
...IT'S ALREADY THE THIRD DAY.

WAIT, HOW DID IT EVEN GET TO THAT?

HM...?

JUST WHAT IS...

HIS FATE WILL BE DECIDED TODAY, BUT HE'S NOT BEGGING FOR HIS LIFE AND IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE HE'S GOING TO RUN AWAY...


STOP RIGHT THEE EERE!!
HE FELL FOR AN OBVIOUS TRAP AGAIN...

...THAT LOOKS LIKE FUN.
...SORT OF.
HE ISN'T AFRAID OF THE CHANCE OF BEING BETRAYED BY HAVING INTERESTS...

DOES THAT MEAN THAT THIS HEADACHE IS A PART OF ME, AS HATEFUL CAT, URGING ME TO HATE...?

AND WHENEVER I'M NOT AWARE OF THE HATE, MY HEAD STARTS TO HURT...

THAT VOICE THAT KEPT SAYING "HATEFUL" YESTER-DAY...

...AGAIN.

ズキン

WHEN I STILL BELIEVED HE WAS THE COWARDLY RAT FROM THE STORY, THIS WOULD'VE NEVER...

IF ONLY I HAD ENDED EVERYTHING AT THAT MOMENT

HUH!?

AH?

CLOSE... WHEN DID YOU...!?

WHY DID I SAY I'D BE WATCHING HIM...

PUNISHMENT DELIVERED

WHA...? WHAT ARE...

GE.... GET AWAY...

ポン

NA-TSUHO.

TODAY'S KINDA COLD, SO WRAP YOURSELF.

YOUR NOSE IS RUNNING.

WHAT'S WITH THAT POSE?

HERE YOU GO.

...AH,

.....

I'M NOT REALLY THANK-ING... YOU...

AH, NO...

.....

...YOU'RE KIND OF WEIRD, NATSUHO...

TH...

THANKS ...

BUT NORMALLY, THAT FEELING OF HATE IS KIND OF GONE... AND YOU EVEN THANKED ME.

WHEN YOU'RE ATTACKING ME, YOU REALLY LOOK LIKE YOU'RE A YOUKAI OF HATE,

BUT WHEN YOU'VE GOT NO CURIOSITY AT ALL, YOU DON'T SEEM LIKE A CAT EITHER.

I KNOW THERE'S THAT SAYING THAT CURIOSITY KILLED THE CAT,

"I SHOULDN'T HAVE AN INTEREST IN HIM."

SO RATHER THAN A YOUKAI...

THE MORE I GET CLOSE TO SOMEONE AND SOMEONE GETS CLOSE TO ME...!

THE MORE I TAKE AN INTEREST AND SOMEONE ELSE TAKES INTEREST IN ME...

I GET THE FEELING YOU'RE A NORMAL GIRL.

...HEY, THE SCARF FELL...

THE MORE MY HEADACHE BECOMES UNBEARABLE.

……ッ!!

NA... NATSUHO ...!?

HER BEHAVIOR SUDDENLY CHANGED AGAIN...?

I SHOULD HAVE...

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I'M SAYING.

NATSU-HO...?

A CAT SHOULDN'T HAVE TO LISTEN TO A PREY BEGGING FOR MERCY.

I SHOULD HAVE DONE THIS ALL ALONG.

MY HEAD HURTS SO MUCH I CAN'T UNDERSTAND.

YOU SHOULD JUST KILL AS SOON AS YOU GET THE CHANCE.

WHEN YOU'RE HUNTING,

IT'S HURTING SO MUCH.

THIS FARCE ENDS HERE,

NEKUNI ...!

GEEZ, I TOLD YOU YOU'D GET IN TROUBLE ONE OF THESE DAYS...

YOU'RE HOPE-LESS...!

THIS IS BAD...

...HA-

HOLD ON...

...URK-

NA-TSU...

AH...

YOU GOT YOURSELF INTO SOME WEIRD TROUBLE AGAIN...

GOOD GRIEF...

THOSE HORNS... AND THAT SUPERHUMAN STRENGTH.

.....

SO YOU'RE THE USHIGURA'S ...!

I HAD HEARD THAT THE HEADS OF THE TWELVE FAMILIES INHERITED SOME INHUMAN POWER...

I SEE.

TU!!

I'M THE HEAD OF THE USHIGU-RA FAMILY, USHIGURA AYAKA...!

JUST LIKE I SAID, I CAME IN A FLASH, KYOUICHI-SAN...!

IN A FLASH... BUT HOW DID YOU...

...AH! DAMN!

I SHOULD'VE JUST SAID THAT I'D ALWAYS COME TO RESCUE YA NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE. '

WHO CARES ABOUT THAT NOW?

ACCORDING TO SANA-CHAN, THIS AREA NEEDED SPECIAL ATTENTION.

SHE'S GOT A GOOD NOSE.

ANYWAY, PLEASE WAIT A BIT'

THAT...

HEY, NATSUHO! STOP...!

NATSU-HO...?

SURE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT WANTS TO TALK...

OR LISTEN TO ANYONE, THOUGH...!

ズン

IS A BOTHER.

ズン

THE RAT'S HELPER

ズン

SHE'S A BOTHER.

"SHE'S IN THE WAY.

LOOKS LIKE YA DON'T CARE WHO IT GOES TO ANY-MORE...

YA SURE ARE LETTING YER HATE OUT ALL OVER THE PLACE...

SHE'S HATEFUL.

MAKES IT REEEALLY HARD TO DO ANY-THING AGAINST IT...

EVEN SO, FOR A CAT YOUKAI, THAT AP-PEARANCE...

LIKES CATS

EVEN SO...

!!

WHOA ...!!

I CAN'T LET YOU HAVE YOUR WAY WITH KYOUICHIRO SAN!!!

COULD IT BE THAT'S WHAT THE HEADACHE MEANT...?

AND HER BEHAVIOR CHANGED AGAIN...

SHIT... EVEN IF I WANT TO STOP HER, SHE CAN'T HEAR ME...

NATSU-HO...!

KH-

OUCH...

AND IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE I HAVE THE TIME TO GRAB THAT...

IF ONLY I HADN'T THROWN IT AWAY ON THE SPUR OF THE MOMENT...

AND EVEN IF I KEEP HITTIN' IT, AS LONG AS I'M JUST USIN' MY BARE HANDS, I WON'T HAVE ENOUGH IMPACT AND RANGE

EVEN THOUGH I JUMPED BACK TO LESSEN THE FORCE, IT STILL HURTS LIKE HELL...

I'LL HAVE TO JUST KEEP ON HITTIN' HER UNTIL SHE SHOWS ME A WEAKNESS.

GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO DEAL WITH IT...'

THE SHAPE OF ITS PAW CHANGED...

IT CAN TRANS-

HI

IL

DA

AH...

...KH-

AYA-
KA!!!

I TOOK...
THE BRUNT
OF IT...

.....RIGHT, I CAME TO KILL THIS HUMAN...

.....

WHAT IS THIS HUMAN TALKING ABOUT?

NATSU-HO....

WASN'T YOUR TARGET ME....?

I HAVE TO HATE...

THAT'S RIGHT, I HAVE TO HATE HIM...

NEVER LET YOU...

I WILL...

NOT...

SO FAST...

AYAKA ...!

REACH HIM!!

WHO DIRECTED HER FIERCE HOSTILITY TOWARDS ME.

I FELT ENVIOUS OF THIS WOMAN.

FOR SOME REASON,

BECAUSE I HAD NOTHING LIKE THAT.

ガキン

SOMETHING I'D WANT TO DESPERATELY PROTECT

AND THE TENACITY TO FACE AN ENEMY...

I HAD NOTHING LIKE THAT.

...I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED, BUT...
KYOU-CHI-SAN...! IT'S STILL BREATH-ING...
...! NATSU...
ORIGINALLY... THE HATEFUL CAT FROM THE STORIES I HEARD
DIDN'T SEEM TO BE THE KIND OF YOUKAI I'D BE ABLE TO DEFEAT.
はぁ...
はぁ...
.....!
CAN I DELIVER THE FINAL BLOW...?

BUT A CHANCE TO KILL YOUR NATURAL ENEMY ISN'T SOMETHING YOU CAN JUST LET GO, RIGHT...?

I DON'T KNOW WHY I WAS ABLE TO FIGHT IT...

AND THE HATEFUL CAT IS A YOUKA THAT TRANSMITTED THAT POWER THROUGH GENERATIONS.

HATE IS AN EMOTION STRONG ENOUGH TO BE ABLE TO CURSE SOMEONE.

I'M SURE I'D HATE IT.

IF YOU WERE KILLED,

...IN MY CASE

BUT THAT...

THEN, I'D END UP BECOMING THE HATEFUL OX,

AND I DON'T WANT THAT.

SHE CAN DO LONG-RANGE ATTACKS...!?

COULD IT BE T'S WHAT SHE USED THEN...!?

....? SOME-TH NG... JUST-

...

SHE GOT MY LEG . TH-THAT ASIDE, WE'RE W DE OPEN. !

ARE YOU OKAY, AYAKA ....?

HUH? WELL, T S NOT DEEP, SO F I TAKE IT SLOW I CAN WALK...
WILL YOU BE ALL R GHT WITH YOUR LEG LIKE THAT?
...AYAKA.
IT... RAN AWAY...? WHY WOULD IT...
...?

YOU'RE NOT THINK:N' OF...?
...WAIT, KYOUICH - SAN....

はっ…

はっ…

LOOKS LIKE... I MANAGED TO RUN AWAY THIS FAR...

THANKS TO THE DEEP WOUND, MY SURVIVAL INSTINCTS WERE STRONGER THAN THE HATE...

MY WOUND'S HEALED, BUT I DON'T HAVE ANY MORE STRENGTH TO DRIVE ENEMIES AWAY...

I FINALLY UNDERSTOOD WHY I MADE THAT PROMISE...

I'M LIKE THIS THANKS TO HIM.

...AND IT'S REALLY TRUE...

THERE'S THAT SAYING THAT CURIOSITY KILLED THE CAT.

HE WAS TOO MUCH OF A SIMPLE IDIOT.

すまんあおりすぎたな

俺のせいかって

殿おち り前 IT'S BECAUSE MY IMPRESSION OF HIM WAS TOO DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I'D HEARD.

I ENDED UP HAVING SOME INTEREST.

...NATSUHO!

OF HAVING AN INTEREST ANYMORE

EVEN THOUGH I HAD NO INTENTION

WILL KILL
THE CAT.

THIS
CURIOSITY

SO YOU WERE ALIVE...! I THOUGHT THAT WOUND HAD KILLED YOU...

DI...

DID YOU COME TO FINISH ME OFF...?

NO WAY.

WAH... DO... DON'T COME.

YOU DON'T NEED... TO COME...

...DID YOUR SENSES

COME BACK AFTER BEING CUT BY AYAKA?

THAT'S NOT...!

BUT IT WAS KIND OF WEIRD... AS A CAT, YOU HAD BETTER REFLEXES, WERE BETTER AT HUNTING, AND TO TOP IT OFF YOU WERE HUGE.

BUT IT WAS LIKE SOMETHING GOT IN THE WAY AND STOPPED YOU FROM FIGHTING WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.

BEFORE YOU TRANSFORMED INTO THAT BIG CAT, YOU WERE FEELING YOUR SENSES FADING AWAY, RIGHT?

AH...

THAT'S NOT...

THA...

WITH THAT LAST ATTACK, SHOULDN'T YOU?

AND YOU SHOULD'VE BEEN ABLE TO KILL US

DON'T WANT TO HATE ANYMO...

YOU YOUR-SELF

...!!

...!

EVEN IF IT WAS ON THE SPUR OF THE MOMENT... YOU AVOIDED GIVING ME A FATAL WOUND.

...I TOLD YOU.

REFUSE TO FOLLOW WHAT THEY WERE BORN TO, THEY HEAR VOICES THAT GIVE THEM IMPULSIVE ORDERS, ALMOST LIKE A HEADACHE...

AND IT SEEMS THAT THE MORE THEY REFUSE IT, THE MORE THEY ARE SWALLOWED BY THOSE IMPULSES...

...I REMEMBERED WHAT A YOUKAI FRIEND I HAVE TOLD ME...

IF YOUKAI THAT ARE BORN FROM A CERTAIN PHENOMENON, LIKE AN AZUKIARAI OR AN AKANAME...

EVEN THOUGH YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO END THIS HATE...

WHY... DID YOU COME...

WHO CARES... ABOUT IMPULSES AND WHATNOT...

SO... SO WHAT OF IT...

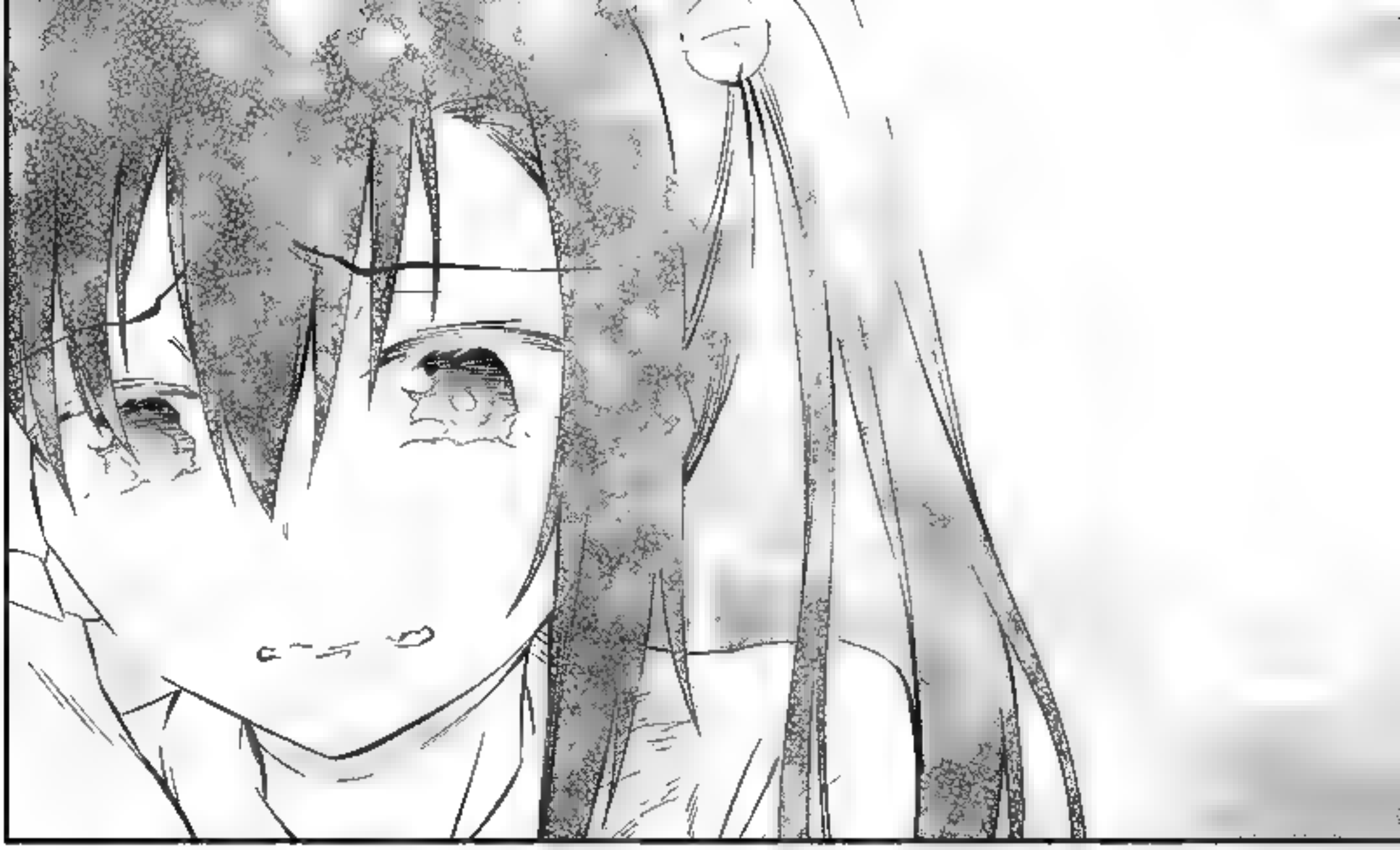
EVEN THOUGH AS LONG AS I HAVE SOME INTEREST IN YOU

AND THE MORE I GET TO KNOW YOU, THE MORE MY HEAD WILL HURT...

YOU'LL JUST BE HATED... BY ME .N THE END...

HOW CAN I NOT CARE AFTER YOU SHOWED SUCH A PAINED FACE...!

...YOU IDIOT.



WHAT THE HELL...

WHAT'S UP...
WITH THAT...

AND NOW...

HAVE YOU EVER... DATED A BOY?
NATSU-HO.
...

for when... you're older...

Is only...

B...But that... That kind of stuff...

SHE REALLY IS INNOCENT.

I've never even talked to a boy before...

Wh...!? Whawhawhy are you...

...YOU HAVEN T?

?

...NA-TSUHO.

!?

IT WON'T BE RELATED TO THE HATEFUL CAT.

...SO IF YOU REACT TO IT,

...THIS IS SOMETHING I'M DOING OUT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

LET ME GO...

LET...

WHAT ARE YOU...

...

WHA-

...っ !??

SO HATE ME.

…？

キョロ…

キョロ…

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CU...

CURIOSITY

TOOK OVER ME.

HUH-

DID... YOU...?

WHY...?

WHA, HUH, WHA...

WHAT SHOULD I SAY?

ERR... WELL...

?

...THIS GUY... THIS GUY IS SO...

HUH...? ISN'T A KISS MEANT TO BE SOMETHING YOU DO WITH THE PERSON YOU LOVE...?

HUH...? I CAN'T HAVE MY FIRST KISS ANYMORE UNLESS I DIE AND AM REBORN...?

MY FIRST KISS... WAS THANKS TO HIS CURIOSITY...?

...? WHAT DID HE JUST SAY...?

YOU DAMN IDIO-OO-OT!!

HATE-FUL!

IF YOU'RE GOING TO DO IT AGAIN, CHOOSE ANOTHER SPOT...!

GYAAH!! DON'T!!

YOU'LL CRUSH THEM!

LET ME GIVE YOU ANOTHER GOOD KICK...!!

YOU JUST THIS IS BAD URGH

WA. WAIT

IS MEANT TO BE DONE WITH THE PERSON..

TH S... TH S THING...

YOU LOVE...

YOU HATE-FUL... HATE-FUUUUL...

...HUH?

WHAT A HATEFUL GUY...

EVEN NOW YOU'RE LIKE THAT...

...WHAT D'D YOU JUST SAY, NATSUHO?

IS GONE.

THE HEAD-ACHE...

MUCH STRONGER THAN THE IMPULSES.

THIS IS

I HATED HIM SO MUCH I LOST MYSELF...

.....

...I SEE ,IT'S DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE...

I...

I SAID YOU'RE... HATEFUL...

IT'S BECAUSE I THOUGHT OF IT STRONGLY BY MYSELF.

YOU HATEFUL FOOL...

THAT IT'S JUST THE KIND OF THING HE'D SAY...

BUT WHY DO I GET THE FEELING HE WAS HALF SERIOUS, OR RATHER,

?

HATEFUL

...WHICH MEANS THAT THAT COMMENT ABOUT HIS CURIOSITY WAS JUST A WAY TO STIR ME UP...

I'M PRETTY SURE WE HAD A TALK ABOUT WHETHER YOU'D HATE JUST ME OR IF YOU'D SLAUGHTER EVERYONE.

WE'RE ALREADY ON THE LAST DAY'S SUNSET.

...SO WHAT NOW?

TCH... SO HATE-FUL...

THAT'S... THAT'S UNFAIR!

THAT'S... YOU'RE JUST SAYING THAT BECAUSE... I ONLY HATE YOU NOW...

...WAIT...?

WELL, THE END RESULT IS THE SAME, THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO ABOUT THAT.

HUH?

FINE BY ME.

YOU... YOU HATEFUL IDIOT...

HOPE WE GET ALONG, NATSUHO.

I'LL FOCUS THE WHOLE OF MY HATE ON YOU, SO YOU BETTER BE READY FOR IT...!

BUT STILL... I DIDN'T KNOW FIRST KISSES ARE SUPPOSED TO TASTE LIKE BLOOD...

IO... IO- IDIOT- IO-IO...

ブルン

BRRR

チキ…

……！

ピッ

…チン

HELLO, SENPA.

…YES,

WELL, ABOUT THAT…

UH,

Where are you right now?

Ah, Sana-chan?

INUHARA SANA

SO.

THE HATEFUL CAT APPEARED, THE NUMBER OF OGRES AROUND THE CITY BORDER INCREASED, AND AS A RESULT THE BARRIER WAS STRENGTHENED.

WE'VE GOT NO OTHER CHOICES, DO WE?

MOVED IN ON THE FOURTH DAY

HOW DID IT TURN OUT LIKE THIS...?

SO... THAT MEANS I ALSO CAN'T USE THAT ROUTE...

SFX STOMP STOMP STOMP

WAIT, IS YOUR LEG ALL FINE ALREADY...?

IT'S WAY TOO STRONG!

NO, THAT'S...

WA... WAIT, WAIT!

DING DONG

WHAT WILL I DO ABOUT SCHOOL...?

AND IT'D BE SPECIALLY BAD, IN A LOT OF WAYS, IF AYAKA EVER FOUND OUT...

OH, AND IT'D BE BAD IF ANYONE ELSE FROM THE TWELVE FAMILIES FIGURE OUT YOU'RE THE HATEFUL CAT,

ガチャ

!!

USHIGU-RA...!? D... DAMN...

AH...

EEE-EEE-EK!!?

KYAAA AAAH!!

HMM? WHY WOULD IT?

WELL... I JUST HAPPENED TO PICK IT UP... WAIT, DOES THE TIMING NOT BOTHER YOU AT ALL...?

WOW, SHE'S DUMB.

SURE, THE SIZE'S DIFFERENT, BUT STILL...

IT'S JUST SOOO TINY AND CUTE!

GEEZ, WHERE DID YOU GET THIS KITTY!?

AH...

ERRRM.

...PLEASE.

OH, GEEZ, I'LL DO IT FOR YOU...

HMM, HOW DO I...

AH, TRUE.

THEY ARE.

OH, KYOUICHI-SAN, YOUR BANDAGES ARE COMING OFF.

LET GO

LET GO

...DON'T MAKE ME WORRY LIKE THAT...

I GOT TO SEE HOW THE ENEMY I HAD A FIERCE BATTLE WITH COULD ALSO MAKE THAT SORT OF EXPRESSION...

SINCE YOU'RE HERE ANYWAY EAT WITH ME BEFORE YOU GO.

EH...

EVEN THOUGH THAT'S WHAT I USED TO THINK,

CURIOSITY IS TROUBLE-SOME.

...SORRY.

AND MORE THAN ANY-THING ELSE,

SORRY I HAVE TO PUT IT ON THE FLOOR.

HERE YOU GO, NATSUHO.

IF YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN IT AND GIVE IT A TRY, IT MIGHT TASTE GOOD, YOU KNOW?

IT MIGHT NOT BE WHAT YOU THINK.

WHAT IS THIS? ARE ALL INGREDIENTS IN THIS NORMAL...?

I DON'T WANT IT.

LOOKS LIKE ROKOROKO-DON? IS THAT WHAT THAT'S CALLED?.

I DON'T MIND IT WHEN I'M A CAT, BUT...

I'M A YOUKAI SO I'LL BE FINE

OH, RIGHT AREN'T CATS BAD WITH ONIONS?

WITH THE HATEFUL HEAD OF THE RAT FAMILY,

I GET THE FEELING THAT I MIGHT START HAVING AN INTEREST IN SOMETH...

!!!

DEATH

UMM... YOU SHOULD STOP... PUTTING WHATEVER YOU WANT IN THE FOOD JUST OUT OF CURIOSITY...

...HUH?

IT'S BAD?

クン

...

JUST A BIT

AND REALLY JUST A BIT,

Could this interest be hate, or...

恨み来、恋、恨み恋。